

Mimi Laigo
Project Draft
Week 6

Idea: comparing womanhood to serpents

How: using personal story and Gloria Anzaldua's *Borderlands* and *Light in the Dark*

At a young age I realized my connection with serpents, of course not understanding why the reptile stood out to me or why I needed to have it in both stuffed and poster form but it was the next best thing to a real one that I could not have due to a very anti snake father.

Add more

Gloria Anzaldua introduced me to Coatlicue also known as the Serpent Skirt Goddess; an ancient goddess of the Aztecs described to have two serpent heads with a necklace with sacrificial hearts she is said to be made of stone. Coatlicue is the goddess who gave birth to the moon and the stars also known as life and death. Coatlicue is a goddess but has parts of both men and women and does identify as both.....Coatlicue is the ultimate duality as is most powerful because of that. ...Gloria Anzaldua stated,

“Coatlicue depicts contradictory. In her figure, all the symbols are important to the religion and philosophy of the Aztecs are integrated. Like Medusa, the Gorgon, she is a symbol of the fusion of opposites: the eagle and the serpent, heaven and the underworld, life and death, mobility and immobility beauty and horror.” (Borderlands p.69)

This is when we learn about Gloria Anzaldua's Coatlicue State this is a “Powerful image or ‘archetypes’ that inhabits, or passes through [her] psyche.” (p. 68) The Coatlicue State is when you are not only seeing an experience but you are seeing THROUGH the experience, “Seeing and being seen” is how Gloria put it.

-Serpent and Vagina dentata

-Being devoured by the serpent

-Can create life just as quickly as you can destroy it

This is a really bad rough draft